

BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

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Town Hall,
BEBINGTON, WIRRAL,
CHESHIRE.
(Tel. ROCK Ferry 2080)

BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Alderman H. Garner
Vice-Chairman: Councillor A. E. Richmond

The Mayor: Alderman R. Evans, J.P.

Councillors:

E. V. M. CRAPPER	W. LUNGLEY
Mrs. D. GOODFELLOW	G. POWELL
Mrs. J. L. GREEN	Mrs. E. POWL
Mrs. H. G. HEBRON	Mrs. S. A. PRICE
A. W. REED	

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:
H. C. JENNINGS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.OBST., R.C.O.G.

Chief Public Health Inspector:
T. TOWNSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:
R. B. VAUGHAN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

J. C. KNEALE	B. D. YOUNG
T. A. DAVIES	L. WOOTTEN
L. C. MOORE	

Pupil Public Health Inspector:
R. C. MILNER

Technical Assistant
R. D. GREEN

Clerical Staff:

Miss M. HOSKER	Miss M. J. KAY (To 21.4.67)
Mrs. C. BALE (To 30.9.67)	Miss B. DOWNEY (From 10.4.67)

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my annual report for 1967.

The adjusted birth rate, per 1,000 of the estimated population, was 18.7. This represents a recovery of the 1939 level, after a downward trend which reached its lowest point (12.9) in 1953.

For the seventeenth year in succession no death was associated with pregnancy or childbirth.

The oldest local report in my bookcase refers to the Lower Bebington Urban District Council area in 1902. It deals with Lower Bebington (as we now know it) New Ferry, and Port Sunlight. For various reasons the vital statistics appearing in this 1967 report are not strictly comparable with the very limited numerical data recorded in the chronicle for 1902. However, I think it is permissible to point out some obvious differences between then and now. The birth rate for 1902, which is described as "high", was recorded as 32.7 per 1,000 persons living in the district. The unadjusted death rate, described as "very low", was of the order of 11.36 per 1,000 persons living in the district per annum. At first sight this seems to compare favourably with the 1967 crude rate of 11.7, but it must be remembered that in 1902 the proportion of children was greater, and the proportion of elderly people smaller, than in the 1967 population.

Of greatest significance in the attempt at comparison are the respective figures for infant mortality. From the table on page 7 it will be seen that infant mortality in the municipal borough has fallen in an erratic manner since 1939. It is now at by far its lowest level — 9.8 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding figure for 1902 was 101.8!

Of further significance is the fact that 81% of the infant mortality in 1967 occurred during the first week of life. This then is a relatively vulnerable period of existence when prematurity, congenital abnormality, and birth injury exact their toll from a small number of infants who, for practical purposes, could virtually be regarded as stillborn. However, there has been an erratic

but marked improvement in the combined stillbirth and early neonatal (first week) death rate, from 64 per 1,000 live and stillbirths in 1939 to 19 in 1967.

This is all very admirable and satisfactory but there is a certain irony. The more infants there are who survive birth and the first week of life, the more adults there will be available to die of cancer of the lung and coronary heart disease. And the vast majority of these will be fully aware of the risks they voluntarily incur by smoking heavily, eating more than they need, and taking a minimum of exercise.

It is interesting to note that our local population is probably more stable than it was in 1902. The report on Lower Bebington for that year tells us that "the number of common lodging houses on the register at the commencement of the year was 30". By the end of the year 1,300 visits had been paid to these houses and fourteen had been removed from the register. One could be forgiven for suspecting that the Inspector of Nuisances held some very firm views regarding the conduct of these establishments. Nowadays his district is just as closely inspected, and the main target of our house improvement programme. One of the beneficial effects of this work lies in the fact that improvement begets further improvement. Not only do benefitting householders tend to redecorate and generally enhance their housing standard, but others, formerly indifferent, or reluctant to agree, to such basic betterment, now cast approving eyes at their neighbour's example and follow suit.

My thanks are due again to Mr. Townson for his comprehensive report on environmental health, and to Mr. Turner for his exact presentation of the vital statistics.

H. C. JENNINGS.

October, 1968.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	12,244
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1967)	...	...	...	...	...	55,520
Dwelling houses at 31st December, 1967	...	...	...	...	...	18,496
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1967	...	...	...	...	...	£2,703,335
Yield of a Penny Rate (1967/68)	...	...	...	...	...	£10,757

Live Births:—	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	963	512	451
Illegitimate	55	30	25
	<hr/> 1018		

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	...	...	18.3
Birth rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.02	...	...	18.7
Birth rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	...	...	17.2
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	5.4

Still Births:—	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	11	7	4
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	<hr/> 12		

Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	1030
Still Birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	11.7
for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	14.8

Infant Deaths:—

Deaths of Infants under ONE year—Legitimate	9	}		10
Illegitimate	1		...	
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	9.8
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	9.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	18.2
Deaths under FOUR WEEKS—Legitimate	7	}		8
Illegitimate	1		...	
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	7.9
for England and Wales	...	...	...	12.5
Early Neonatal Deaths (under 1 week)	...	...	...	8
Early Neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	7.9
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	19.4

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion):—

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	Nil
for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	0.20

Deaths:—	Total 650	Male 320	Female 330		
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	11.7
Death rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.08	12.6
Death rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	11.2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis) under 5 years of age...					1
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diphtheria (all ages)	Nil

TABLE I

Comparative Annual Numbers and Rates of Births and Deaths for Borough of Bebington since 1939

Year	Popula- tion	Live Births		Infant Deaths		Maternal Mortality			Deaths all ages	
		Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Popu'n (ad- justed)	Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Puer. Fever	Other	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Popu'n (ad- justed)
1939	42,000	781	18.61	34	43.53	—	2	2.56	396	9.38
1940	43,180	682	13.48	46	67.2	2	1	4.68	470	10.88
1941	41,910	688	16.42	36	52.6	—	1	1.46	482	11.5
1942	41,880	748	17.8	21	28.07	—	—	—	403	9.6
1943	41,300	748	18.11	47	62.83	—	—	—	455	11.01
1944	41,970	857	20.41	36	42.00	—	—	—	434	10.34
1945	42,390	788	18.3	39	49.00	1	2	3.8	419	10.02
1946	45,620	875	19.4	45	51.0	—	1	1.14	489	10.8
1947	46,640	914	19.6	47	51.3	—	1	1.09	470	10.1
1948	46,780	809	17.2	37	45.5	—	1	1.2	432	9.2
1949	47,030	706	14.9	24	33.9	—	2	2.8	471	9.9
1950	47,150	687	14.5	18	26.2	—	1	1.4	460	9.7
1951	47,300	648	13.7	17	26.3	1	—	1.52	562	11.6
1952	47,790	651	13.7	17	26.2	—	—	—	529	11.0
1953	48,220	643	12.9	21	32.6	—	—	—	499	11.0
1954	48,740	635	13.7	15	23.6	—	—	—	478	10.2
1955	49,100	663	14.2	19	28.7	—	—	—	513	10.8
1956	49,950	753	15.8	16	21.2	—	—	—	509	11.4
1957	50,150	766	15.9	10	13.1	—	—	—	524	11.6
1958	50,540	772	15.9	21	27.2	—	—	—	552	12.1
1959	51,050	816	16.6	18	22.1	—	—	—	554	12.1
1960	51,640	870	17.5	27	31.0	—	—	—	554	12.0
1961	52,060	907	17.6	16	17.6	—	—	—	639	14.1
1962	52,980	858	16.4	16	18.6	—	—	—	641	13.8
1963	53,420	978	18.7	16	16.4	—	—	—	708	14.6
1964	54,070	954	18.0	15	15.7	—	—	—	632	12.8
1965	54,520	928	17.4	20	21.6	—	—	—	639	12.6
1966	55,140	929	17.1	17	18.3	—	—	—	663	12.7
1967	55,520	1018	18.7	10	9.8	—	—	—	650	12.6

It will be noted that the death rate for all ages was higher in 1967 than in 1939. The reason for this lies in the fact that our population is ageing, and the proportion of elderly people in the community has become higher.

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of the borough at the 30th June was 55,520.

All statistical data for the year throughout this report is based on the mid-year estimate of 55,520. This is 380 more than 1966 and shows the continued uninterrupted upward trend since 1946.

TABLE II
CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1967
(As Compiled by the Registrar-General)

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in Years									
					1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75 & over	
1. Tuberculosis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Respiratory	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	
	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	5	
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	22	2	
	F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	3	—	
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	1	
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	27	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	3	3	10	6	
	F	33	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	7	10	12	
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	
16. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	26	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	6	2	15	
	F	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	10	37	
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	99	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	28	38	23	
	F	62	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	24	32	
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	
	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	7	
20. Other Heart Disease	M	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	5	12	
	F	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	25	
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	10	
22. Influenza	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	
23. Pneumonia	M	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	23	
	F	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	31	
24. Bronchitis	M	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	16	8	
	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	3	
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
31. Congenital Malformations	M	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	M	27	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	7	9	
	F	26	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	7	13	
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	7	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	1	
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	
34. All Other Accidents	M	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
	F	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
35. Suicide	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	
Total All Causes	M	320	7	1	2	1	3	4	11	15	56	110	110	
	F	330	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	18	31	80	190	

Births

1,018 live births were referable to the borough which gave a rate of 18.7 per thousand of the population compared to 929 and 17.1 the previous year.

55 illegitimate births were registered during the year.

Deaths

According to the Registrar General 650 deaths were referable to Bebington during 1967 giving a crude death rate of 11.7 and an adjusted death rate of 12.6.

There were 9 residents of the borough killed in road accidents.

Infant Mortality

10 infants under one year of age died giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 9.8 per thousand compared with 17 deaths and a rate of 18.3 in 1966. 8 of these deaths were under one month. The rate for England and Wales was 18.3 per thousand.

The Perinatal Mortality Rate which is now recognised as the rate for infant deaths under one week and still births was 19.4.

TABLE III
Cause of death of those dying under one month

Cause of death	Male	Female	Total
Congenital Abnormality	1	—	1
Neonatal Atelectasis	1	—	1
Prematurity	5	—	5
Pneumonia	—	1	1
Total	7	1	8

Maternal Mortality

No maternal death has occurred in the borough since 1951. Statistically, on the basis of the national figures, one maternal death should occur in the borough once in every four years.

TABLE IV

Stillbirths, Neonatal (Infants under 1 month) Deaths and Rates per 1,000 Live and Still Births

Year	Total No. of Live and still Births	No. of Still Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	No. of Deaths Infants under one month	Neonatal Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of Still Births plus No. of Neonatal Deaths	Early Neo-Natal Death and Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births
1939	807	26	32	26	32	52	64
1940	722	38	53	22	30	60	83
1941	708	24	34	18	25	42	59
1942	771	23	30	8	10	31	40
1943	788	40	51	29	25	60	76
1944	884	27	31	23	26	50	57
1945	881	23	28	23	29	46	57
1946	900	25	28	32	35	57	63
1947	936	22	24	35	37	57	61
1948	832	23	28	26	31	49	59
1949	730	19	26	19	26	38	52
1950	711	24	34	15	21	39	55
1951	655	7	11	11	16	18	27
1952	670	19	28	15	23	34	51
1953	661	18	27	15	23	33	50
1954	654	19	29	13	20	32	49
1955	681	18	26	13	20	31	46
1956	771	18	23	13	16	31	39
1957	786	20	25	6	8	26	33
1958	785	13	17	15	19	28	36
1959	828	12	15	15	18	27	33
1960	883	13	15	21	24	34	39
1961	921	14	15	12	13	26	28
1962	875	17	19	10	11	27	31
1963	999	21	21	11	11	32	32
1964	972	18	19	11	12	29	30
1965	939	11	12	12	13	23	21
1966	946	17	18	14	15	31	32
1967	1030	12	12	8	8	20	19

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

TABLE V

No. of notified infectious diseases occurring in Bebington according to year and disease

DISEASE	Y E A R													
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Scarlet Fever ...	55	34	15	37	38	74	31	21	17	33	22	56	49	47
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	140	97	150	134	27	80	58	12	11	42	86	41	22	49
Measles ...	623	497	255	496	170	906	327	681	606	345	610	425	381	404
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	4	1	1	6	8	6	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis ...	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) ...	36	22	16	30	16	28	15	25	15	17	16	18	8	10
Meningococcal Infection ...	3	3	2	2	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Paratyphoid ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery ...	17	39	19	22	18	69	22	22	345	24	62	168	34	90
Food Poisoning ...	23	47	9	4	54	20	48	18	13	19	23	25	15	—
Erysipelas ...	7	9	14	6	2	9	5	3	3	—	3	3	3	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	3	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Scarlet Fever

47 cases of scarlet fever were notified during 1967. This disease continues in a very mild form and no case was admitted to hospital during the year.

Diphtheria

It is now fourteen years since a case of diphtheria was notified. It is most important that young children are immunised against this disease in order to prevent any future outbreak.

Whooping Cough

49 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year. 27 of these were known to be immunised. Six cases were under one year which is the age at which this disease is most severe. Whilst it is known that immunisation is not 100% effective against this disease even when not completely preventative it modifies the course of the disease and the serious sequelae which used to occur are uncommon in the immunised person.

Measles

404 cases of measles were notified during 1967.

Smallpox

No cases were notified in the borough — 1 case was notified for England and Wales.

Poliomyelitis

No cases were notified in the Borough for the fourth successive year.

Food Poisoning

No notifications of food poisoning were received during the year.

Dysentery

90 cases were notified during 1967.

Sonné dysentery is a mild disease more of a nuisance than an illness to the majority of sufferers although it can have serious consequences in the very young and the very old and probably only a very small percentage of sufferers call in a doctor and are subsequently notified to the health department. Although it is always with us some years it is more prevalent than others.

Tuberculosis

There were 5 notifications of respiratory tuberculosis in 1967.

One death was attributed to respiratory tuberculosis during 1967.

TABLE VI
Notifications and the number of deaths from tuberculosis during 1967.

Age Periods	Notifications				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—44	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—54	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
55—64	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
	5		3		1		—	

TABLE VII

The following table shows the number of notifications, the number of deaths, and the death rate from Tuberculosis during the last twenty years.

Year	Notifications				Number of Deaths				Death-rate from Resp. T.B. England & Wales per 1000 popul'n
	Respiratory Total No.	Rate/ 1000 popul'n	Non- Respiratory Total No.	Rate/ 1000 popul'n	Respiratory Total No.	Rate/ 1000 popul'n	Non- Respiratory Total No.	Rate/ 1000 popul'n	
1948	37	0.79	5	0.11	18	0.38	2	0.04	0.51
1949	50	1.06	6	0.13	23	0.49	2	0.04	0.49
1950	41	0.87	8	0.17	11	0.23	—	—	0.36
1951	47	0.99	9	0.19	11	0.23	4	0.08	0.32
1952	42	0.88	11	0.23	11	0.23	4	0.08	0.24
1953	35	0.73	5	0.10	4	0.08	1	0.02	0.20
1954	42	0.86	12	0.25	2	0.04	2	0.04	0.18
1955	29	0.59	2	0.04	5	0.10	—	—	0.13
1956	44	0.88	3	0.06	9	0.18	—	—	0.11
1957	36	0.72	2	0.04	2	0.04	—	—	0.095
1958	21	0.42	6	0.12	4	0.08	1	0.02	0.10
1959	12	0.24	3	0.06	4	0.08	—	—	0.077
1960	17	0.33	3	0.06	3	0.06	2	0.04	0.068
1961	11	0.21	2	0.04	1	0.02	—	—	0.065
1962	20	0.38	3	0.06	2	0.04	—	—	0.059
1963	18	0.34	—	—	1	0.02	—	—	0.056
1964	10	0.18	—	—	2	0.04	—	—	0.047
1965	15	0.27	—	—	2	0.04	2	0.04	0.042
1966	7	0.13	—	—	3	0.05	—	—	0.043
1967	5	0.09	3	0.05	1	0.02	—	—	0.037

Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1967

Respiratory Cases	...	...	...	133
Non-Respiratory Cases	...	...	...	17
				<hr/>
				150
				<hr/>

Medical Examinations

During the year the Medical Officer has carried out 313 medical examinations for new employees, superannuation and sick pay purposes. The formal clinical examination for assessment of fitness for entry to employment and the superannuation scheme is now very largely redundant.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

TABLE VIII

This Table shows the number and types of Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1967.

Nature of Inspections made	Totals for 1967	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices	Notices complied with
Dwellinghouses inspected	1116	141	—	—
Dwellinghouses re-inspected	1984	—	26	126
Offices, Shops and Railway premises	814	55	—	109
Tents, Vans and Sheds	7	—	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	67	3	—	3
Factories without mechanical power	5	—	—	—
Schools	17	—	—	—
Hairdressers	6	—	—	—
Workplaces	8	—	—	—
Public Conveniences	69	1	—	—
Drains	1196	32	5	25
Ditches and Watercourses	68	1	—	1
Courts and Passages	59	—	—	—
Cesspools	10	—	—	—
Septic Tanks	89	4	—	—
Overcrowding	10	—	—	—
Refuse Tips	59	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations	129	—	—	—
Dustbins	934	—	—	—
Food Premises	678	70	—	13
Food Hawkers	27	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	749	—	—	2
Riding Establishments	4	—	—	—
Food Poisoning visits	31	—	—	—
Dysentery Visits and Revisits	822	—	—	—
Infectious Disease Visits and Revisits	174	—	—	—
Rodent Control	902	11	—	1
Verminous Premises	84	3	—	—
Smoke Control	4328	—	—	—
Atmospheric Pollution	143	—	—	—
Noise Observations	172	4	—	—
Miscellaneous	892	—	—	—
Appointments outside Office	450	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Sampling:				
Nature and Substance	155	—	—	—
Visits	61	—	—	—
Bacteriological Sampling:				
Food	68	—	—	—
Ice Cream	21	—	—	—
Milk	67	—	—	—
Water Samples	9	—	—	—
Swimming Bath Water	40	—	—	—
Swabs	21	—	—	—
TOTAL	16,535	325	31	280

HOUSING

Individual Unfit Houses: Housing Act 1957 — Section 16

During the year 1 formal representation was made under the above Act in respect of the house part of 46 New Chester Road, involving 2 adults and 3 children.

Compulsory Improvement of Dwellings:

Work on the Compulsory Area 1 to 15, 2-18 Willowbank Road, 1-15, 2-16 Poolbank Road and 1-15, 2-14 Elmbank Road continued throughout the year. There now remains only 4 houses to be completed and work on these is well in hand, and they should be completed within the first two months of next year.

It is pleasing to report on the attitude of the tenants after the conversions have been completed. In nearly every case they have completely redecorated the interior of their houses and in a number of cases have provided and fixed coloured tiles on the bathroom walls.

Work is progressing satisfactorily on Area No. 2, i.e. 1 to 14 Mill Terrace, Hr. Bebington, where a written undertaking was received from the agents to carry out the improvements. At Nos. 2, 9 and 11 a rear extension to the ground floor scullery to receive the bath wash hand basin and W.C. is required. In the other dwellings, the bathroom to be provided will be by the conversion of the rear bedrooms. By the end of the year the following dwellings had been completed — 1, 4, 10, 13, 14 Mill Terrace.

Work is also progressing satisfactorily, although rather slowly on the conversion of rear bedrooms at 52 to 74 Eastham Village Road. This Area was to have been our Improvement Area No. 3, but after consultation with the owner and his architect it was agreed to carry out the improvements voluntarily. By the end of the year the following dwellings had been improved — Nos. 52 and 54 Eastham Village Road.

At the latter end of the year the properties Nos. 2a, 54, 1 to 41 Trafalgar Drive, 1 to 25 Erfurt Avenue, 2 to 30 Poplar Drive, 26 to 66 Bromborough Road, 2 to 8, 1 to 15 Collingwood Road, 2 to 16 Carlton Road, 2 to 16 and 1 to 7 Newlands Road were declared the Borough's No. 3 Compulsory Improvement Area. The area comprises 125 dwellings, 66 tenanted, 58 owner/occupier and 1 vacant. 52 of the tenanted houses lack some or all of the standard amenities. The tenants and owner/occupiers have been interviewed and advised of the implications arising from improving the properties and as a result, it is expected that 8 tenants will in accordance with their Statutory right, refuse permission for improvements to be carried out.

Standard Grants:

During the year 38 applications for Standard Grants were received for the provision and installation of various standard amenities to bring the dwellings up to full standard of improvement — an increase of 21 over last year. 33 of the 38 applications were for the five standard amenities. In 3 cases the applications were for the building of a ground floor extension to house a fixed bath, wash hand basin and W.C. the grant payable in each case being £335. The total to be paid in grants would be £6,170, and average of £160 5s. per house.

Discretionary Grants:

6 applications were received and approved. Grant payable amounts to £1,262 15s., an average of £210 10s. per house.

Improvement of Dwellings outside Compulsory Improvement Areas:

During the year 3 written representations were received from tenants requesting the Council to take action under Section 19 of the 1964 Housing Act to have their houses improved to the full standard. In taking action under this section the Council must first notify the person having control of the dwelling of the representation made. Following this notification it is for the Council to consider whether to serve a preliminary notice of their proposals for improvement of the dwellings. Before serving a Preliminary Notice the Council must be satisfied that:—

- (a) the representation received has been made by the occupying tenant;
- (b) the dwelling is capable of improvement, at reasonable expense, to the full standard;
- (c) the dwelling ought to be improved; and this is unlikely to happen if the Local Authority do not use their powers under Section 19;
- (d) after improvement the dwelling will be fit for human habitation and likely to remain fit and available for use as a dwelling for at least 15 years.

In 2 cases it was resolved that Preliminary Notices be served. In the other case a voluntary undertaking was given to have the work carried out and the conversion of a rear bedroom into a bathroom has been completed. It is surprising that so few tenants make use of their powers under Section 19.

Housing Repairs:

A total of 111 complaints were received during the year. This resulted in the service of 141 informal notices and 26 statutory notices to secure abatement of nuisances and the remedy of disrepair. A Nuisance Abatement was obtained in respect of non-compliance with notices on the owner of 18, Henthorne Road.

CLEAN AIR

As from the 1st July Smoke Control Area No. 10 became an operative Area. It is bounded by the junction of The Village and Acres Road (North Side), Hr. Bebington Road (North Side), Teehey Lane (East Side), Village Road (North Side), Mount Road (East Side), Broadway and Kings Lane (South Side) to junction of Queenswood Avenue, Queenswood Avenue both sides, through to Town Lane, south side of Town Lane to Townfield Lane (West Side) to The Village and back to the junction of The Village and Acres Road.

The area is approximately 200 acres in size and comprises of 1,503 privately owned dwellings, 2 local authority dwellings, 6 industrial premises, 51 commercial premises and 18 other premises.

As in previous Areas the majority of the conversions were carried out in the last few months before the operation date.

The survey of the proposed Smoke Control Area No. 11 was completed at the beginning of the year. Details were submitted to the Health Committee and it was recommended that the Minister be requested to confirm the Order made in respect of this Area. The Order was subsequently confirmed on the 30th June to come into operation on July 1st, 1968.

The area is bounded by Mount Road (Easterly side) from the junction with Broadway and extending northwards to the Borough boundary and thence eastwards along the Borough boundary to Bebington Road, Bebington Road (West side) to junction with Kings Lane, Kings Lane (Northerly side) to junction with Kings Road, Broadway (Northerly side) to junction with Mount Road. The area is approximately 96 acres in size and comprises of 728 privately owned dwellings, 2 commercial premises and 18 other premises. The total estimated cost of replacements and conversions amounted to approximately £70,000. It is expected that the final estimated cost to the local authority will be £21,300. By the end of the year 392 estimates from occupiers had been received. It is again noticeable that preference for gas as a smokeless fuel is still on the increase.

The survey of our next Smoke Control Area No. 12 is now completed, the details of which will be submitted to the Health Committee in February of next year.

This area is bounded by Kings Lane (South side) from the junction with Old Chester Road, extending westwards to the junction with easterly rear boundary of Queenswood Avenue, Queenswood Avenue (rear boundary east side) junction with Town Lane, Town Lane (North side) to the junction with Townfield Lane and Townfield Lane (East side) to the junction with Bebington Road, Bebington Road (North side) to the

junction with the railway line, railway line (West side) to the junction with the Borough boundary, thence Westwards along the Borough boundary to the junction with Old Chester Road, Old Chester Road (West side) to the junction with Kings Lane.

It is approximately 146 acres in size and will comprise 1,170 privately owned dwellings, 49 local authority dwellings, 5 industrial, 65 commercial premises and 15 other premises. In the total of 1,170 dwellings, this includes 223 dwellings belonging to the County Borough of Birkenhead.

Poulton Development Phase 1:

During the year it was recommended that the following new development area be made a Smoke Control Area and be designated Smoke Control Area No. 20.

The area is bounded by Poulton Road (Westerley side) with junction of continuation of rear boundary of "High Trees", Warren Hey, thence extending South East to Lancelyn Lodge. The roadway (South East and South side) from the Lodge to the junction with the South West boundary of "Poulton Hey" thence North Westerly to the junction with the North West boundary of "Poulton Hey", thence North Easterly to the junction with the continuation of Warren Hey (North side) thence South Westerly to the junction with the North West boundary of "Poulton Hey" thence North Easterly to the junction of the new road 1, Road 1 (North East side) to the junction with the Northerly boundary of 6, Warren Hey and "Clovermead", Woodkind Hey, then Westerly along the Southerly boundary of "Clovermead" and Nos. 4 and 2 and "High Trees", Warren Hey, to the junction with Poulton Road.

It is an area of approximately 13 acres and it is expected that the 100 dwellings and 8 flats will be completed by the end of 1968. There will be no financial liability to the Council.

The Order was subsequently confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on the 31st October and comes into operation on the 1st May of next year.

Regular inspections were carried out at our Smoke Control Areas now in operation and these revealed that occupiers were co-operating in complying with the Order to burn only authorised smokeless fuels and that supplies were adequate.

Routine inspection of the industrial area, during the year, indicated that industrial concerns were well aware of their obligations in regard to Clean Air and no notices were required to be served for smoke nuisance offences.

Seven applications were received during the year under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act 1956 for prior approval to instal furnaces. These applications were approved.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No complaints were received this year of offensive smells emanating from the industrial area. Regular routine inspections have been carried out and no nuisances were observed.

Numerous complaints were received by this Department in April from residents in the Port Causeway Area of houses, gardens and cars being covered in a fine white powdery deposit, which when wetted turned into soap bubbles. It was apparent from samples taken and observations made that this fall-out had come from a local factory producing soap powders. A meeting was arranged with their Production Manager and Chief Engineer and it was agreed that this heavy fall-out of soap powder had been caused by a break-down of the "scrubber", in one of the detergent producing towers. The ingredients are first mixed into a wet slurry and then pumped hot and under pressure into a cylindrical tower. Slow currents of hot air are then introduced in order to dry the product. A certain quantity of particles and steam leaves the top of the tower and is sucked into a scrubbing device. The purpose of this is to wash out the particles with water to prevent them escaping to the atmosphere. The Management acceded that this scrubber had of late been the cause of trouble, and plans were already in operation to have this part of the installation modified but this was expected to take some time. Repairs were carried out on the existing scrubber immediately after the incident and have so far proved satisfactory.

This deposit on the New Chester Road and in the vicinity of Port Causeway was sampled and sent to the Public Analyst from the results of which the Medical Officer of Health formed the opinion that there was no health hazard to the community. Regular inspections have continued during the year and no further nuisances have been observed.

NOISE NUISANCE

Early in the year a number of complaints were received in the Department, from residents of a newly constructed estate adjoining Spital Dam, of a noise nuisance alleged to have arisen from a "blowing tower" situated in a nearby factory.

Discussions were held with the firm in question as a result of which numerous observations and tests were carried out at all times, both day and night, to ascertain the source. During these observations where at times a noise could be discerned, it never in our opinion constituted a statutory nuisance. The noise in question was eventually traced to another factory on the East side of New Chester Road and came from a fan in the wet extraction plant. Repairs were carried out and the motor enclosed and subsequent inspections revealed that the remedy was working satisfactorily.

Observations were also being made on another factory where a noise was being caused by either grinders or fans. Discussions are at present taking place between this Department and the management of the firm in question.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

By the end of the year a total of 438 premises had been registered under the above Act. The number of persons employed at the premises was 2,313 this total being sub-divided into 839 males and 1,474 females.

The number of premises receiving a full general inspection during the year were:—

Offices	..	..	..	..	..	10
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	39
Wholesale Premises and Warehouses	..	..				1
Catering Establishments open to the public	..					3

The total number of visits and re-visits during the year were 809 which resulted in 164 Informal Notices being served on 60 shops, 26 offices, 16 catering establishments and two wholesale premises. A total of 294 offences were found, and are summarised below:—

Section	Offices	Shops	Wholesale & Warehouses	Catering Establishments
4 Cleanliness of Premises ...	6	20	3	6
5 Overcrowding ...	2	1	—	—
6 Inadequate Heating & Absence of Thermometer ...	4	17	1	2
7 Inadequate Ventilation ...	8	16	2	4
8 Inadequate Lighting ...	10	20	1	—
Absence of suitable means for disposal of Sanitary Dressings ...	5	16	3	5
10 Inadequate Washing Facilities ...	2	7	—	2
11 Absence of Drinking Water ...	1	4	—	2
12 Inadequate Accommodation for Clothing ...	1	4	—	—
13 Inadequate Seating Facilities ...	—	1	—	—
16 Condition of floors, passages & stairs ...	7	19	1	8
17 Guarding of machinery ...	5	9	1	2
24 Absence of adequate First Aid Kit	11	14	2	2
27 Dangerous Acts, Interferences with Equipment, etc. ...	—	—	—	1
50 Absence of Information for the Employees ...	13	19	2	2

Six accidents were notified during the year, none being fatal. Four occurred at Catering Establishments, one at a Shop and the other at an Office. All were investigated and it was revealed that three involved falls, two machinery and one the handling of goods.

No prosecutions were taken following these investigations. One formal warning was given, three occupiers were given informal advice and in two cases no action was found necessary.

The accident for which a formal warning was given by the Council involved a person falling down an open trap door at the rear of a bar counter in a Public House. The requirements of Section 16(4) — guarding of openings in floors — had been complied with, but an offence under Section 27 was committed by the barman going down the cellar and leaving the trap door open and not placing the guard bars in position.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1959

The number of factories at the end of the year totalled 154. The following tables show the results of inspection in the form required by the Minister of Labour.

TABLE IX

I. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of written notices	Numbers of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	111	67	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	21	8	1	—
Total	154	80	3	—

TABLE X

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	3	—	—	—

TABLE XI

3. OUTWORKERS

Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (b) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel (Making)	3	—	—	—	—	—

GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply:

The Wirral Water Board supply water from four sources, Prenton, Mouldsworth, Hooton and Sutton Hall. The first three named are underground supplies, the last one is River Dee derived.

The supply in the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are carried out on the raw water and on the treated water at regular intervals by the Board's Chemist and in addition quarterly bacteriological and chemical examinations are made by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London. In all cases the results have shown a pure and wholesome water supply for Public Supply purposes.

Tests for lead content after overnight contact with lead pipe have shown that these supplies do not have plumbo solvent action. The fluoride content of the supplies is less than 0.1 parts per million. The fluoridation of supplies has not been adopted by the Board.

Unfortunately no separate figures are available for the Bebington area with regard to the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains direct to the houses, or by means of stand-pipes.

Sewerage:

The planning of the last phase of the comprehensive sewage scheme for the Borough, that is the Eastham area where flooding occurs during heavy rains, was completed by the end of the year and application for loan sanction forwarded to the Ministry.

New sewers were laid in the vicinity of Plymyard thus enabling drainage from older properties to be connected direct to the sewer.

Discussions were taking place with the owners of properties in Brookhurst Close with the intention of extending the sewers into this road and linking the properties to main drainage and enabling old septic tanks to be put out of use.

House Drainage:

During the year 426 complaints of choked drains were received by the Department. Testing and examination of drains resulted in 1,196 visits being made, 32 informal notices and 5 statutory notices being served.

Public Conveniences:

Regular inspections were made of public conveniences throughout the year. All nuisances and defects reported to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor were remedied without delay.

Improvements at Gents Public Conveniences at Greendale Road and New Ferry Road have been carried out satisfactorily by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

Tips:

Routine visits to the Spital Refuse Tip once again showed the Tip to be well worked and controlled with the result that no complaints from the public were received during the year.

Pet Shops:

Five Pet Shops are registered with the Local Authority and the high standard of cleanliness associated with these premises was again noticeable. No ill treatment or overcrowding of live animals was noted during inspections.

Animal Boarding Establishments:

The three Animal Boarding Establishments registered were found to be well kept and the facilities provided for the animals were satisfactory.

Riding Establishments:

Two Riding Establishments are licenced with the Council. These licences were approved by the Health Committee on the recommendations of a Veterinary Certificate.

Schools:

These were visited as a routine duty, not only in regard to sanitation, and defects of construction, but to inspect the kitchen and dining halls.

Disinfestation:

The Health Department provides a disinfestation service for the destruction of insect pests of all kinds. In addition to this, treatment of houses and buildings, bedding and clothing can be undertaken by the Department by steam disinfestation.

The following figures show the number of premises treated:—

- 3 Household bed bugs.
- 8 Houses for woodworm infestation.
- 270 Houses for other vermin.

RODENT CONTROL

The control of mice in the New Ferry area is still proving a problem. As previously reported mice are resistant to Warfarin. A new poison, Alphakil, has been used during the year with a certain amount of success. The difficulty with the use of this poison is the fact that it is not effective if the temperature rises above 60F.

The following statistics indicate the work carried out during the year:

- Major Primary infestation of 20 and over.
- Minor Secondary infestation of up to 20.

TABLE XII

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses including Council Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total of Columns 1, 2 & 3	Agricultural
Total number of Properties inspected as a result of Notification, Survey or otherwise	20	431	97	548	5
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ...	522	2978	1514	5014	137
No. of Properties inspected which were found to be infested by:—					
Rats ... Major ...	—	9	5	14	4
Minor ...	13	203	39	255	—
Mice ... Major ...	—	25	4	29	—
Minor ...	—	88	18	106	—
No. of infested properties treated by L.A.	22	353	79	454	14
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	331	1720	941	2992	88

Types of visits made:—

Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	...	...	...	2978
L.A. Property	(1) Tips and non agricultural work	...	...	126
	(2) Sewage Works	...	...	57
	(3) Other buildings	...	...	339
Business Premises	(1) Factories and Workplaces	...	...	654
	(2) Shops	...	...	257
	(3) Places of Entertainment	...	...	7
	(4) Cafes and Canteens	...	...	5
	(5) Licensed Premises	...	...	33
	(6) Non-agricultural land	...	...	77
Agricultural Properties	(1) Market Gardens and Farms	...	...	86
	(2) Piggeries	...	...	24
	(3) Agricultural Land	...	...	27
Other Authority Properties	(1) Schools	...	...	344
	(2) Hospitals	...	...	107
				<u>5151</u>
No. of Dwelling House contracts signed	...	...	...	248
No. of Estimates provided (Industry and Business premises)	...	...	...	60
No. of Contracts signed	...	...	...	51
Value of Estimates during 1967	...	...	...	£355 0 0

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955 — FOOD HYGIENE

Visits made to food premises during the year totalled 678. Determined efforts were made to carry out a detailed survey of all school and factory canteens, and to reinspect if found necessary. A problem experienced with school canteens is the time taken in having the work carried out after the notification of defects. During visits advice was readily given by the public health inspectors on the provisions of the regulation.

FOOD PREMISES

Registered Premises under the Food & Drugs Act }	Preserving and frying of food	...	...	...	65
	Ice Cream	...	...	...	151
Registration of Hawkers under the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953					44

Type of Premises	Number of premises	Number of premises with wash hand basin	Number of premises required to be fitted with sinks	Number of premises with sinks
Kitchens & Canteens	26	26	—	26
Cafes & Snack Bars	22	22	—	22
Butchers	39	39	—	39
Bakehouses	5	5	—	5
School Canteens	26	26	—	26
Clubs & Licensed Premises	48	48	—	48
Supermarkets	18	18	—	18
Grocers & Provisions	42	42	—	42
Greengrocers, Fruit & Fish	34	34	1	32
Fried Fish Shops	14	14	—	14
Small Mixed Food Shops	31	31	—	27
Sweets and Tobacco and Small Grocers	64	64	—	3
Confectioners	18	18	—	18
Chemists	20	20	—	20

Meat Inspection:

Due to the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak, slaughtering at New Ferry ceased towards the end of the year and was considerably reduced at Hr. Bebington. Nevertheless, the important and exacting work of inspection continued and inspectors were, of course, particularly concerned to ensure that no animal presented for slaughter showed Foot and Mouth Disease symptoms.

TABLE XIII

NEW FERRY

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed ...	85	—	6	463	—	554
Ante-mortem in- spection including supervision of humane slaughter	85	—	6	463	—	554
Notice of Slaughter received ...	85	—	6	463	—	554
Emergency notifications ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-mortem inspection ...	85	—	6	463	—	554
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	28	—	—	25	—	53
Percentage of number affected	32.9%	—	—	5.4%	—	9.5%

HIGHER BEBINGTON

		Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed ...	3353	113	12	9974	2791	16,243	
Ante-mortem in- spection including supervision of humane slaughter	3353	113	12	9974	2791	16,243	
Notice of Slaughter received ...	3353	113	12	9974	2791	16,243	
Emergency notifications ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Post-mortem inspection ...	3353	113	12	9974	2791	16,243	

Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	7	—	—	—	46	53
Percentage of number affected	0.23%	—	—	—	1.6%	0.33%

All Diseases except Tuberculosis:

Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	1	1	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1971	24	—	1096	521	3,612
Percentage of number affected	58.7%	21.2%	—	10.9%	18.7%	22.2%

Other Condemned Food:

The following table indicates tinned and other goods found to be unsound following notification or visits to warehouses, canteens and shops:—

10,867 tins of Meat	1 pkt. Bread Sauce
95 tins of Fruit and Vegetables	1 pkt. Chicken Cubes
14 tinned Steak and Kidney Puddings	1 pkt. Arrowroot
116 tinned Puddings	1 tin Fruit Juice
18 tinned Pies	1 jar Jam
	3 pkts. Jellies
	7 pkts. Cake Mix

1 tin of Fish	5 pkts. Biscuits
50 pkts. Soup	9 pkts. Cornflower
19 pkts. Cheese	12 jars Bifti
3 tins Dried Milk	50 lbs. Sausage
1 tin Rice Pudding	4 lbs. Lard
2 pkts. Sago	9 lbs. Bacon
8 pkts. Cereal	3½ lbs. Chopped Pork
6 pkts. Tea	67 lbs. Pork
3 pkts. Dried Fruit	165 lbs. Beef
7 pkts. Dessert	156 lbs. Lamb
44 pkts. Stuffing	384 pkts. Plain Crisps
1 pkt. Quick Trifle	48 pkts. Smokey Bacon Crisps
4 pkts. Marshmallow	456 pkts. Snacks
1 pkt. Sugar Snacks	96 Chickens
96 pkts. Oxo	104 Ox Tails
20 jars Oxo	242 Sheep Plucks
3 pkts. Bristo Cubes	

Due to refrigeration breakdowns the following frozen foods were condemned:—

35 pkts. Sliced Beef	13 pkts. Marzipan
71 pkts. Beef Cheeseburgers	35 pkts. Crisps
47 pkts. Rissoles	39 pkts. Crisps
20 pkts. Braised Beef	8 pkts. Fruit
6 pkts. Sausages	53 pkts. Orange Juice
16 pkts. Sausage Rolls	5 cartons Cream
9 pkts. Faggots	22 Beef Dinners
99 pkts. Steaklets	20 Steak and Kidney Pies
126 pkts. Beefburgers	17 Steak and Chicken Pies
2 pkts. Shepherds Pie	3 Meat Pies
411 pkts. Fish	20 Chickens
142 pkts. Fish Cakes	20 Chicken Pies
601 pkts. Vegetables	6 Chicklets
2 pkts. Chicken and Onion Sauce	10 Chicken and Mushroom Casserole
64 pkts. Puff Pastry	9 Cream Cakes
11 pkts. Yorkshire Puddings	9 Cakes
2 pkts. Welsh Rarebit	4 Trifles
4 pkts. Breadcrumbs	108 lbs. Portk
14 pkts. Buttermix	6 lbs. Lamb
6 pkts. Cheese	3 lbs. Lamb Kidneys
5 pkts. Suisse Delice	1½ lb. Ox Heart
58 pkts. Mousse Desert	¾ lb. Mince

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963

The number of licences issued under the above Regulations at the end of the year totalled:—

Untreated Milk	..	..	..	84 Dealers
Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	84 Dealers
Sterilised	..	..	..	84 Dealers
Ultra Heat Treated	..	..	..	84 Dealers

SAMPLES OF MILK FOR BIOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS

TABLE XIV

Tests for Tuberculosis Milk and Brucella Infected Milk.

No. of samples taken	Designation	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
14	Untreated Milk ..	14	NIL

In addition the County Medical Officer of Health reports that his staff took samples of Milk from one herd in the Borough producing Untreated Milk for sale to the public. Details are given below:—

	Total Submitted	No. Brucella Positive
Bulk samples	21	1
Dealer samples (Herd samples)	11	NIL
Individual cow samples	155	5
Total	187	6

The affected cattle were removed from the herd. This herd is now not in existence.

TABLE XV

Tests for Keeping Quality.

No. of samples taken	Designation	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
50	Pasteurised	47	3
14	Untreated	13	1
5	Sterilised	5	NIL

In all cases where samples failed the Methylene Blue test it was found to be due to inadequate methods of storage and vendors were suitably advised by public health inspectors. Subsequent samples were satisfactory.

TABLE XVI

Tests for Adequate Pasteurisation or Sterilisation.

No. of samples taken	Designation	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
50	Pasteurised	50	NIL
5	Sterilised	5	NIL

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM

During 1967, 23 samples of Ice Cream and Lolly Ices were purchased and sent to the Public Health Laboratories, Chester, for examination.

Results:	15 samples	Grade I	Satisfactory
	1 sample	Grade II	Satisfactory
	1 sample	Grade III	Unsatisfactory
	6 samples	Grade IV	Unsatisfactory

In one case of an unsatisfactory Grade IV sample produced locally, investigation revealed the cause to be due to incorrect us of the pasteurisation plant. Suitable advice was given with subsequent satisfactory results.

Two Grade IV samples were from mobile traders, the Head Office in each case was informed and the driver/salesman advised with subsequent improvement.

The remaining Grade IV samples were found to be entirely due to poor maintenance of the vendors refrigerator and lack of understanding of the importance of good stock rotation. Suitable measures were taken in this instance and later supplies were satisfactory.

The Grade III sample was for a Lolly Ice and was again due to a stock rotation mistake which in this particular instance was most unusual from this manufacturer and vendor.

SWIMMING BATH WATER

TABLE XVII

Bacteriological Sampling.

39 samples were taken from New Ferry, Port Sunlight and Clatterbridge Hospital Pools.

Results of Examination.

	Number Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
New Ferry Baths	10	9	1
Port Sunlight Baths	12	10	2
Clatterbridge Pool	11	7	4
Clatterbridge Spastic Pool	6	5	1

With regard to the unsatisfactory sample at New Ferry Baths, this sample was from the middle Pool during a very busy period at the outlet where contamination would normally be heaviest. All subsequent samples were satisfactory.

The two unsatisfactory samples from Port Sunlight were taken on the same day during a very heavy bathing "load". All later samples were satisfactory.

The one unsatisfactory sample from the Spastics Pool at Clatterbridge Hospital was the first sample taken when the Pool opened. Advice was given and all later samples were very satisfactory.

Clatterbridge Main Pool gave four unsatisfactory samples and talks were held between a member of the Department's staff, the Hospital Secretary and Engineer with a view to making improvements in treatment and maintenance.

A major problem here is unauthorised use by members of the public and non resident staff and this is difficult to control due to the open nature of the hospital.

TABLE XVIII

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOODSTUFFS IN GENERAL

During 1967, 69 samples of miscellaneous foods were submitted to the Public Health Laboratories at Chester for bacteriological examination.

Sample	Number Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Steak and Kidney Pie	1	1	—
Salmon Paste	3	3	—

thirty-two

Sample				Number Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Bilberry Tart	..	..	..	1	1	—
Pork Pie	..	..	..	3	3	—
Pork Luncheon Meat	..	..	..	5	5	—
Eccles Cake	..	..	..	1	1	—
Roast Beef	..	..	..	2	2	—
Pressed Beef	..	..	..	2	2	—
Meat Pie	..	..	..	4	3	1
Corned Beef	..	..	..	3	3	—
Sausage Roll	..	..	..	1	1	—
Boiled Ham	..	..	..	4	3	1
Beef Kidneys	..	..	..	1	1	—
Creamed Cakes	..	..	..	4	4	—
Minced Beef	..	..	..	2	1	1
Ox Tongue	..	..	..	1	1	—
Pressed Veal	..	..	..	1	1	—
Pork Roll	..	..	..	1	1	—
Ham Cured Shoulder	..	..	..	1	1	—
Cooked Chicken	..	..	..	2	2	—
Table Jelly	..	..	..	1	1	—
Boiled Shoulder	..	..	..	2	2	—
Bacon	..	..	..	1	1	—
Frying Steak	..	..	..	1	1	—
Ham Spread	..	..	..	1	1	—
Tomato Soup	..	..	..	1	1	—
Cornish Pasty	..	..	..	2	2	—
Orange Juice	..	..	..	1	1	—
Prawns	..	..	..	1	1	—
Chelsea Bun	..	..	..	1	1	—
Roast Pork	..	..	..	2	2	—
Chopped Pork and Ham	..	..	..	1	1	—
Pork Sausage	..	..	..	1	1	—
Minced Pies	..	..	..	1	1	—
Rump Steak	..	..	..	1	1	—
Turkey	..	..	..	4	4	—
Turkey Stuffing	..	..	..	1	1	—
Gravy	..	..	..	1	1	—
Steak and Kidney Pie	..	..	..	1	1	—
Meat and Potato Pie	..	..	..	1	1	—
Totals	..	..	..	69	66	3

The three unsatisfactory samples were all due to the presence of faecal coli. Although the presence of this organism in raw minced beef has no great significance the opportunity was taken of discussing personal hygiene with the staff of the shop concerned.

In the cases concerning the meat pie and boiled ham a more serious view is taken and the vendors premises were inspected and the staff interviewed with a view to emphasising the importance of personal hygiene.

In addition to the foregoing, samples of river and well water were taken at the request of a large local industrial firm with a view to establishing the purity or otherwise of the water. Also samples were taken from a suspected house water supply. Details as follows:—

TABLE XIX

Sample	Source	Result
Water	Deep Well	Satisfactory
Water	Deep Well	Satisfactory
Water	River	Unsatisfactory
Water	Deep Well	Satisfactory
Water	Deep Well	Satisfactory
Water	Deep Well	Satisfactory
Water	Tap	Satisfactory
Water	Tap	Satisfactory

Although the deep well water was bacteriologically satisfactory, chemical examination of this water proved unsatisfactory.

The following 20 swabs were taken during the year:

<i>Sample</i>		
Swabs from Preparation Tables	5	Satisfactory
Swab from Slicing Machine Table	1	Satisfactory
Swab from Slicing Machine Table	1	Satisfactory
Swabs from Meat Cutting Block	5	Satisfactory
Swab from Cream Mixer	1	Satisfactory
Swab from Refrigerator	1	Satisfactory
Swab from Drainer	1	Satisfactory
Swabs from Storage Shelves	2	Satisfactory
Swab from Cake Trays	1	Satisfactory
Swab from Meat Cutting block	1	Unsatisfactory
Swab from Meat Mincing Machine	1	Unsatisfactory

The unsatisfactory swabs were from surfaces which had been in contact with raw meat and were not serious matters, the organisms being faecal coli and not a food poisoning type. Nevertheless, opportunity was taken to discuss routine cleaning of working surfaces and equipment and personal hygiene.

TABLE XX

The following table refers to specimens and samples taken in connection with suspected food poisoning and associated cases.

Type	No. Taken	Remarks
Faeces	841	*205 Shigella Sonnei 1 Salmonella Typhimurium 4 Clostridium Welchii 631 Negative

*This figure comprises the total number of positive specimens obtained during the investigation of a smaller number of cases (e.g. if a case was a long time clearing up we might have got four or five positive specimens from the same person).

FOOD & DRUGS SAMPLING Nature, Substance and Quality

TABLE XXI

Article	No. of samples of each article examined			No. of samples of each article regarded as adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Raw (Farm) Milk	—	25	25	—	—
Channel Island Milk	—	4	4	—	3
Pasteurised Milk	—	35	35	—	1
Homogenised Milk	—	2	2	—	—
Sterilised Milk	—	2	2	—	—
Flavoured Milk	—	1	1	—	—
Phensic Tablets	—	2	2	—	—
Aspirin	—	1	1	—	—
Glycerine and Balsam	—	1	1	—	—
Soothing Powders	—	1	1	—	—
Cough Mixture	—	1	1	—	—
Sweet Pepper Sauce	—	1	1	—	—
Bolognais Sauce	—	2	2	—	—
Marmalade	—	1	1	—	—
Honey	—	2	2	—	—
Jam	—	2	2	—	—
Moutarde Forte	—	1	1	—	—
Minced Beef	—	1	1	—	—
Pork Pie	—	1	1	—	—
Sausages	—	1	1	—	—
Tomato Ketchup	—	1	1	—	—
Jelly	—	2	2	—	—
Brandy Flavoured Butter	—	1	1	—	—
Turkey and Mushroom in Wine Sauce	—	1	1	—	—

Article	No. of samples of each article examined			No. of samples of each article regarded as adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Cheez Whiz	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lobster	—	—	—	—	—	—
Batter Mix	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pork Luncheon Meat	—	—	—	—	—	—
Instant Mashed Potatoes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Quality Milk Top	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parishes Food	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beef Stew Seasoning	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spam Spread	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vegetable Oil Shortening	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assorted Chocolates	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boiled Octopus on Skewer	—	—	—	—	—	—
Baked Beans	—	—	—	—	—	—
Butter	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomato and Beef	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vegetable and Lamb	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lemonade Shandy	—	3	3	—	—	—
Crunch Peanut	—	3	3	—	—	—
Liquid Fruit Pectin	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rumba Drink	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meat Paste	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cake Mix	—	—	—	—	—	—
Garden Peas	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lyonnais Sauce	—	—	—	—	—	—
Condensed Tomato Puree	—	3	3	—	—	—
Jugged Hare with vegetable	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolate Flavoured Syrup	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whisky	—	—	2	—	—	—
Brandy	—	—	2	—	—	—
Nocki in Cheese Sauce	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stewed Steak	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomato Juice	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spanish Rice	—	—	—	—	—	—
Quaker Oats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trifle	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tropical Lemon	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cream	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Spread	—	—	—	—	—	—
Creamed Tomato Souffle	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beef Suet	—	—	—	—	—	—
Potted Beef	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mixed Fruit	—	—	—	—	—	—
Low Fat Yoghurt	—	—	—	—	—	—
Extract de Tomatooe	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sweet Tops	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orange Squash	—	3	3	—	—	—
Totals	2	146	148	—	8	8

		Milk Fat	Non-Fatty Solids	Water
Milk average for the year ...	...	3.66%	8.79%	89.55%
Legal minimum standard ...	...	3.0%	8.5%	—
Channel Island Milk				
Average for the year ...	...	5.17%	9.19%	86.64%
Legal minimum standard ...	...	4.0%	8.5%	—

TABLE XXII

Sample No.	Article		Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Action Taken	
1	Milk	...	...	Informal	Milk deficient in fat to the extent of 6.6%	Further sample taken which was subsequently found to be genuine.
2	Milk	...	...	Informal	Milk deficient in fat to the extent of 23.3%	Further sample taken
3	Milk	...	...	Formal	Milk deficient in fat to the extent of 3.3%	Further sample taken
4	Butter	...	...	Informal	Butter showing evidence of rancidity	Vendor advised on stock rotation
5	Milk	...	...	Informal	Milk deficient in fat to the extent of 56.6%	Subsequent samples satisfactory
6	Quaker Oats	...	...	Informal	Quaker Oats grossly infested with mice droppings	Vendor prosecuted and a £20 fine imposed
7	Trifle	...	...	Informal	Trifle contaminated with mould	Occupier advised re eradication of mould in the bakehouse and of the elements of hygiene. Subsequent samples and swabs have been satisfactory.
8	Sweet Tops (Dessert)	...	...	Informal	Food not conforming to Article 4(I) of the Labelling of Food Order 1953	Under discussion with the legal department of the manufacturers

Action taken under the Food and Drugs Act and Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

1.	Insects in bottle Milk	..	..	..	Wholesalers fined £20
2.	Mould growth on Loaf of Bread	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
3.	Foreign body in Steak and Kidney Pie	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
4.	Mould inside Wholemeal Loaf	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
5.	Dirt and glass fragments in bottle of Milk	..	..	..	Wholesalers warned
6.	Rancid flavour of packet of Butter	..	..	..	Retailer warned
7.	Foil cap in bottle of Milk	..	..	..	Retailer warned
8.	Mould on tin of Baked Beans	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
9.	Mould in Meat Pie	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
10.	Mould on Cakes	..	..	..	Manufacturer/Retailer warned
11.	Oil in large Loaf	..	..	..	Manufacturer warned
12.	Glass in bottle of Milk	..	..	..	Wholesaler warned
13.	Foreign body in Loaf	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
14.	Mould in loaf of bread	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
15.	Mould growth on jar of Marmalade	..	..	..	Manufacturers warned
16.	Flour mites in pkt. Quaker Oats	..	..	..	Retailer prosecuted and fined £20
17.	Mouldy cheese portion in box of Cheeses	..	..	..	Retailer warned

18.	Foreign body in tin Pineapple Slices	..	Wholesaler warned
19.	Foreign body in Cod Steaklet	..	Wholesaler warned
20.	Foreign body in slice of Beefburger	..	Manufacturer warned
21.	Foreign body in loaf of Bread	..	Manufacturer warned
22.	Piece of glass in bottle of Milk	..	Wholesaler warned
23.	Milk bottle top in bottle of Milk	..	Wholesaler warned
24.	Filter Tip in bottle of Milk	..	Wholesaler warned
25.	Foreign bodies in bottle of Milk	..	Wholesaler warned
26.	Mould in jar of Vegetable and Beef	..	Manufacturer warned
27.	Metal nut in packet of Crisps	..	Manufacturer warned
28.	Foreign body in Meat and Potato Pie	..	Manufacturer warned
29.	Discolouration in tin of Corned Beef	..	Retailers warned
30.	Discolouration in tin of Corned Beef	..	Retailers warned
31.	Mould growth on loaf of Bread	..	Manufacturers warned
32.	Discoloured tin of Corned Beef	..	Retailers warned
33.	Mould growth on two loaves of Bread	..	Manufacturers warned
34.	Mouldy Carrots in polythene bags.	..	Retailers warned

SHOPS ACT, 1960 YOUNG PERSONS EMPLOYMENT ACT, 1939

The Chief Public Health Inspector who is Chief Inspector under the above mentioned Acts, reports that during the year the following warnings were given in regard to offences:—

Mixed Business Notices not provided	11
Failing to exhibit Sunday Trades Notice	1

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH
COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIVISIONAL
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1967

Divisonal Health Office,
Town Hall.
BEBINGTON,
Cheshire.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE
(At 31st December, 1967)

Representing Bebington Borough Council

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. H. G. HEBRON
Deputy Chairman: Alderman Mrs. E. B. WILLIAMS

Aldermen:
R. EVANS
H. GARNER

Councillors:
R. BEVAN
B. A. BRYNING, J.P.
E. V. M. CRAPPER
Mrs. D. GOODFELLOW
Mrs. J. L. GREEN
H. HARRIMAN
W. LUNGLEY
Mrs. S. A. PRICE

Representing Cheshire County Council

County Alderman Miss B. E. WILSON,
County Councillor Mrs. E. POWL
County Councillor G. POWELL

Ex Officio Members

County Alderman Sir GEORGE ASTBURY
County Councillor A. RICHARDSON

Representative Members

R. A. FORSYTHE, Esq.

Dr. B. CARRUTHERS

A. F. DRAKE, Esq.

J. J. BROWN, Esq.

Mrs. M. MELLADAY

J. H. SPEED, Esq.

Mrs. M. GITTINS

A. L. RADCLIFFE, Esq.

Representing

Bebington Divisional Executive for Education.

County Palatine of Chester Local Medical Committee

County Palatine of Chester Local Dental Committee.

Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee.

Wirral Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

Bebington Old People's Welfare Committee.

DIVISIONAL AND COUNTY STAFF

<i>Divisional Medical Officer</i>				H. C. Jennings, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.
<i>Clerk to the Divisional Health Committee</i>	...	...	...	G. Chappell, O.B.E., LL.B.
<i>Assistant County Medical Officers</i>				Jessie Tough, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Helen Brass, M.B., B.A.O., B.Ch.
<i>Dental Surgeons</i>	...	...	...	A. E. Allen, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. Mrs. D. F. Wilson, L.D.S. A. C. Penlington, B.D.S.
<i>Divisional Administrative Assistant Clerical Staff</i>	...	...	...	W. R. Turner Mrs. E. Bieniek, Miss N. Mackey, Mrs. E. Davies, Miss J. Clark, Miss S. Hough, Mrs. E. Insley
<i>Health Visitors</i>	...	...	...	Miss E. Nicholson, Miss D. V. Stamper, Miss D. Cadogan (to 31.1.67), Mrs. W. Woodbridge, Mrs. E. J. Norman, Miss A. N. Moulden, Miss D. K. Whyte, Mrs. E. Jones, Miss D. Roberts (from 3.4.67)
<i>Clinic Nurse</i>	...	...	...	Mrs. E. M. Ellis
<i>Home Nurses</i>	...	...	...	E. Cochrane, Miss M. G. Griffiths, Mrs. M. R. Heatley, Mrs. A. Davies, Mrs. E. Martlew, Mrs. I. M. Eden, Mrs. B. Baker, Mrs. R. Kophamel, Mrs. M. Jelley (from 3.7.67)
<i>Midwives</i>	...	...	...	Mrs. C. R. Green, Mrs. D. Clarke, Mrs. M. A. Taylor (to 28.4.67), Mrs. M. C. O'Brien, Mrs. N. C. Birkett (from 10.7.67)
<i>Area Mental Welfare Officer</i>	...			E. M. Harborow
<i>Mental Welfare Officers</i>	...	...		Mrs. C. Ledsome, A. J. Hotchkiss, K. V. Williams, D. T. Rattray
<i>Matron, Day Nursery</i>				Mrs. W. I. Boulton
<i>Supervisor, Junior Training Centre</i>				Mrs. M. Sutton
<i>Domestic Help Supervisor</i>	...	..		Mrs. J. M. Bryne

CONSULTANTS

<i>Chest Physician</i>	...	H. N. C. Bleasdale, M.B., Ch.B.
<i>Obstetricians</i>	...	J. A. Bentham, F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. W. Gault, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., M.R.C.O.G.
<i>Ophthalmic Surgeon</i>	...	J. D. E. Edwards, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S., R.C.P.S.I.
<i>Paediatrician</i>	...	K. R. Llewellyn, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.C.H.,

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year was notable if only for the amount of thought devoted to the planning of future aspects of community medicine. As one result we hope to have, in association with the community centre, a new comprehensive public health department, a unit for handicapped persons, and a new clinic suite, before the end of 1970. The latter will, amongst many other functions supersede the use of Mayer Hall, and perhaps the Victoria Hall, as improvised infant welfare clinics.

During the latter months of the year discussions took place with the Family Planning Association with a view to establishing a weekly clinic at both Eastham and New Ferry Centres. Plans were completed with a minimum of difficulty and delay, and the clinics duly opened in January, 1968.

The Ministry of Health and all public health medical officers had vaccination against measles very much in the forefront of their minds during 1967. The assessment of suitable vaccines was accelerated, and some of us felt able to assist the Medical Research Council in the conduct of careful trials. These were ready to go into operation early in 1968.

A good deal of thought was given to the subject of the early detection and alleviation of certain disabilities associated with old age. A small panel of divisional medical officers, of which I was one, sat on several occasions to consider the feasibility of achieving any significant advance in preventive medicine as applied to the elderly. Bearing in mind the present limitations of our knowledge, it was considered probably worthwhile still to support such a service. It was, however, unanimously agreed that the only effective way of ever dealing with the numbers involved would entail general practitioners participation reinforced by public health nursing attachments.

Early in 1967 the division was fortunate to secure the services of two capable part-time women drivers to handle a special vehicle. This is equipped with tail-lift mechanism designed to facilitate the transport of people in wheel-chairs taking part in the activities of the handicapped persons' club.

The central council for the disabled was invited to stage an exhibition in Bebington and this was mounted in the Mayer Hall. It was augmented by a display of nursing aids obtainable through this department. Through the kind co-operation and permission of Dr. Philip Robinson, a valuable link was established with the occupational therapy unit at Clatterbridge Hospital. I am also grateful to Mr. Caulfield, the regional disablement resettlement officer, for

his interest in local problems affecting disabled people and for arranging for me to study various aspects of rehabilitation connected with the Ministry of Labour in Liverpool.

During the year the division was absorbed into a system for immunisation and vaccination dependent on a computer programmed in Chester. Family doctors were visited and most elected to join in the arrangement, which offered them considerable advantages. The computer handles appointments, notes non-attendance and is a means of harbouring efficiently an almost infinite number of records. There is reason to suppose that under the new system acceptance rates are somewhat enhanced. Unfortunately we have not noticed any marked diminution of clerical work in the department as yet.

My thanks are due once again to the staff, headed by my administrative assistant, Mr. W. R. Turner, to the County Medical Officer of Health and his department, and to the Chairman, for their valued assistance and support.

H. C. JENNINGS,
Divisional Medical Officer.

Town Hall,
BEBINGTON.
30th September, 1968.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED AND MANAGED BY THE
DIVISIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE TERMS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DIVISIONAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, 1948

Section 22 — Care of Mothers and Young Children

(i) Day Nursery

The average daily attendance was 23.0 as compared with 27.2 in 1966.

The average number of priority cases on the register throughout the year was 24.

TABLE I

Total number of priority cases attended during 1967	TYPE OF PRIORITY CASE					
	Illegiti- mate child	Parents separated/ Divorced	Mother widowed	Mother in Hospital	Other (medico/ social)	Mother Teaching
51	14	12	1	3	15	6

Table II shows attendances made during the year:—

TABLE II

	0 — 2 years	2 — 5 years	Total
	1163	4432	5595
Average daily attendance	4.8	18.2	23.0

Whereas local health authority day nurseries still cater for mothers who must work, more private day nurseries and play groups are appearing in the country, and these are patronised rather by mothers who merely prefer to follow some employment or who believe that certain developmental advantages will be conferred on their children. For similar reasons we believe that young handicapped children may sometimes benefit by attending the day nursery and certainly respite will be afforded to their mothers.

(ii) Mother's Clinics

(a) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal

Combined ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the New Ferry Clinic Centre on Wednesday mornings and the Clinic Centre, Eastham on Friday mornings. The mothers are examined by the consultant obstetrician and advice and education about pregnancy and infant care is given by the health visitors.

TABLE III

		New Cases	Total Attendances
New Ferry	Ante-Natal	45	298
	Post-Natal	—	13
Eastham	Ante-Natal	188	791
	Post-Natal	5	65

(b) Preparation Classes

Preparation classes are held weekly at New Ferry Clinic Centre on a Monday afternoon and at the Clinic Centre, Eastham on a Wednesday afternoon. These clinics are run by a Health Visitor and a physiotherapist. The midwives attend whenever their duties allow.

Table IV gives the attendances made during the year —

TABLE IV

	New Cases	Total Attendances
New Ferry	96	545
Eastham	168	808

(iii) Infant Welfare Clinics

There are two permanent clinics in the borough, one at New Ferry where an infant welfare clinic is held each Wednesday afternoon and one at Eastham clinic where a clinic is held every Monday afternoon. In addition there are weekly infant welfare clinics held in rented premises at Mayer Hall, Bebington on a Friday afternoon; at Victoria Hall, Higher Bebington, on a Tuesday afternoon and at Bromborough Council Offices on a Thursday morning. Thornton Hough clinic continued during the year on a fortnightly basis.

During the year, 9,462 attendances were made as compared to 9,938 in 1966 and 10,211 in 1965.

TABLE V

Total attendances and new cases at infant welfare clinics during 1967:—

	Attendances		New Cases
	Under 1 year	1—5 years	Under 1 year
New Ferry	1477	206	171
Eastham	2307	238	264
Higher Bebington	1566	268	151
Bromborough	1540	256	173
Lower Bebington	1101	270	127
Thornton Hough	197	36	21
	8188	1274	907
	9462		

(iv) Young Children's Clinics

A routine inspection of toddlers is valuable for the early detection of physical and mental defects and handicaps. Such clinics are held regularly at New Ferry Clinic Centre, and the Mayer Hall, Bebington.

Table VI gives the figures of attendance —

TABLE VI

Clinic	Sessions	Attendances
New Ferry	12	70
Lr. Bebington	8	83

(v) Ancillary Services and Special Clinics held in County Council Clinic Premises

(a) Ophthalmic Clinic

A combined session for pre-school and school children is held each Thursday morning at New Ferry Clinic Centre and once fortnightly on a Thursday afternoon at Eastham clinic Centre.

New cases and attendances of children under five:—

TABLE VII

	New Cases	Attendances
New Ferry Clinic Centre	28	107
Eastham Clinic Centre	12	66

(b) **Paediatric Clinic**

Consultant clinics continued to be held every Tuesday morning at New Ferry Clinic Centre and each Friday afternoon at the Clinic Centre, Eastham.

TABLE VIII

	New Cases	Attendances
New Ferry Clinic Centre	46	283
Eastham Clinic Centre	63	556

(c) **Blood Investigations**

Arrangements exist at New Ferry Clinic Centre for mothers and children to undergo simple blood tests if they are considered advisable by the paediatrician or obstetrician.

(d) **Hearing Clinics for Young Children**

These are conducted by health visitors.

Whilst ideally every child should be tested and so far as possible this is done, attention is paid more particularly to children "at risk", i.e., children born with other congenital abnormalities, or children with Rh neg. mothers or congenitally deaf close relatives. etc.

TABLE IX

Clinic	New Cases			Re-tests		
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5
New Ferry Clinic Centre	102	17	15	3	—	18
	(134)			(21)		
Bromborough Council Offices	152	11	2	20	6	—
	(165)			(26)		
Eastham Clinic Centre	195	11	7	45	12	10
	(213)			(67)		
Mayer Hall	82	11	6	8	3	—
	(99)			(11)		
Victoria Hall	103	18	11	3	4	1
	(132)			(8)		

No child during the year was found to be deaf.

(vi) Branded Infant Foods

The sale of branded infant foods at child welfare clinics during the year realised £3,512 as compared to £4,159 in 1966.

(vii) Welfare Foods

New Ferry clinic is the main distribution centre and is open for their sale each morning from Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. These foods are sold at all the infant welfare clinics.

During the year 1967 the following Welfare Foods were issued and the comparative figures for 1966 are shown in brackets —

National Dried Milk (20oz. tin — 2/4d.)	4815	(5466)
Cod Liver Oil (6oz. bottle — 1/-d.)	706	(908)
Vitamin A & D Tablets (6d.)	1350	(1310)
Orange Juice (6oz. bottle — 1/6d.)	16446	(16305)

SECTION 23 — MIDWIFERY SERVICE

The establishment of midwives for the area is five.

The midwives now hold Ante-Natal Clinics weekly at the New Ferry Clinic Centre and the Clinic Centre, Eastham, for their own booked cases.

Births notified to the borough during the year: —

Home confinements	80
Hospital confinements	899
	<hr/>
	979
	<hr/>

The number of domiciliary confinements continues to fall as the institutional confinements increase. This, however, means much maternity nursing for the domiciliary midwives because of the number of “short-stay” hospital confinements.

SECTION 24 — HEALTH VISITING

The establishment of health visitors for the division is eight and during the year this number has been employed.

Routine work was carried out in the ante-natal, infant welfare and young children's clinics, and in specialists clinics in geriatrics, obstetrics and paediatrics.

TABLE X

Visits by Health Visitors during 1967:—

Primary (infants)	1002
Revisits (infants)	4025
Older children	5843
School children	374
Ante-Natal	347
Tuberculosis	89
General Sickness and Infirmary	1405
Special	382

13467

SECTION 25 — HOME NURSING SERVICE

At the end of 1967 nine home nurses including a male nurse were serving residents in the Division who were considered by general practitioners to be in need of home nursing, and the relevant numerical data for the year are shown in conjunction with the 1966 figures, which are given in brackets.

New Cases	Visits paid
452 (453)	19006 (18613)

SECTION 26 — VACCINATION and IMMUNISATION**(i) Vaccination against smallpox****TABLE XI**

Number of children vaccinated against smallpox in 1967:—

0-4 years	5-15 years	Re-vaccination
660	25	33

(ii) Diphtheria Immunisation**TABLE XII**

Number of children immunised against diphtheria generally in the form of triple antigen during 1967:—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Re-inforcing doses
883	44	734

The last case of diphtheria in Bebington was notified in 1953. Only 6 cases of diphtheria were notified in England and Wales during 1967 and there were no deaths.

(iii) Whooping Cough Immunisation

Whooping Cough immunisation has been continued throughout the year usually combined with diphtheria and tetanus using the antigen already mentioned.

TABLE XIII

Number of children immunised against whooping cough either alone or combined with diphtheria and tetanus.

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Re-inforcing doses
879	41	358

(iv) Tetanus Immunisation**TABLE XIV**

Number of children immunised against Tetanus either alone or combined with diphtheria and whooping cough during the year:—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Re-inforcing doses
883	57	746

(v) Poliomyelitis Vaccination**TABLE XV****A. Completed Primary Courses — Number under age 16**

Year of Birth					
1967	1966	1965	1964	1960-63	Others under Age 16
239	526	53	11	41	8
878					

B. Reinforcing Doses

450	46
496	

There were 19 notifications of poliomyelitis in England and Wales in 1967.

There were no deaths.

(vi) B.C.G. Vaccination (Tuberculosis)

Table XVI gives details of numbers vaccinated.

TABLE XVI

B.C.G. Vaccination of thirteen year old schoolchildren—

1. Estimated population	765
2. Number of consents	661
% consenting	86
3. Number of children tuberculin tested	583
4. Number of children tuberculin positive	25
% positive	4
5. Number of children vaccinated with B.C.G.	557
6. Percentage vaccinated of school population	73

All mothers having their babies in hospitals and general practitioner maternity homes are encouraged to have them vaccinated early in life and 414 had this done during the year.

The percentage of positive reactors falls steadily year by year and is regarded as a reliable index of the extent to which tuberculosis is prevalent in the community. These declining figures are, therefore, very encouraging but, as with all infectious diseases, constant vigilance must still be exercised.

SECTION 28 — PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

(a) Tuberculosis

Home visits to tuberculosis patients by health visitors were continued throughout the year and close liaison with the Consultant Chest Physician was maintained. Nursing equipment was loaned to patients in appropriate cases.

The following table shows the state of the register at the 31st December, 1967, and other relevant figures for the year.

TABLE XVII

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary (lung)	78	55	133
Non-pulmonary	4	13	17
			<hr/> 150
New cases placed on register	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	8	2	10
Non-pulmonary	—	6	6
			<hr/> 16
Cases removed from Register	14		
Contacts examined by Chest Physician	19		
Visits paid by Health Visitors	89		

(b) Handicapped Persons Club

The number of persons on the register at 31st December, 1967, was 34 and there was an average attendance of 26 during the year.

The Club was run by a part time handicrafts instructor and one of the health visitors. Instruction is given in rugmaking, hand weaving, knitting, cane work and the making of various articles and soft toys with the use of foam rubber.

Early in the summer a number of these handicapped persons had a week's holiday at Pontin's Holiday Camp, Lytham St. Annes, arranged by the department.

(c) Chiropody

The Chiropody Service for persons over 65, handicapped persons, and expectant mothers continues. Recipients must have their doctors or district nurses' recommendation.

91 males and 501 females had treatment during the year.

TABLE XVIII

PLACE OF TREATMENT	CATEGORY					
	OVER 65		PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED		EXPECTANT MOTHERS	
	No. of patients	No. of treatments	No. of patients	No. of treatments	No. of patients	No. of treatments
Chiropodist's Surgery ...	328	1755	5	27	—	—
Home of patient	243	1148	16	101	—	—

Number of cases in which County Council paid full fees — 502

Number of cases in which County Council paid part fees — 90

(d) Geriatric Consultant Clinic

Clinics of this nature together with domiciliary services marshalled by the health visitor can often be instrumental in maintaining these elderly patients in their own homes in the community. Admission to hospital or hostel may either be postponed or avoided altogether.

TABLE XIX

	Attendances
New Ferry Clinic Centre	142
Eastham Clinic Centre	40

(e) Elderly Persons Health Advisory Clinic

Total number of attendances — 216

This clinic is intended primarily as a preventive service for relatively fit elderly people. Its aims include both the early detection of disorder — physical, mental, emotional and social — and, by health education, the promotion of a state of positive health. It cannot and must not, compete with general practice, and it cannot administer treatments and medicines. Again in 1967 it seemed to appeal to a small number of people, some of whom at least were probably rather more introspective or anxious than usual, and these were afforded the reassurances they sought.

(f) Cervical Cytology Clinic

Number of patients examined — 911 (8 early lesions detected).

The opportunity is taken to examine the genital organs, breasts, and urine, and many conditions have been detected which respond to advice and treatment.

(g) Visits made by Health Visitors

1405 visits were made in 1967 by Health Visitors in connection with the welfare of the chronic sick, aged and infirm.

(h) Home Nursing Equipment

During the year issues of home nursing equipment on loan totalled 170.

(i) Meals on Wheels

The voluntary "Meals on Wheels" Service run by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service supplied 21,700 meals to aged and handicapped people during the year. The W.R.V.S. have three vans operating this service, which affords to some their chief form of nourishment. Meals are supplied daily from Mondays to Fridays, and 2,407 more lunches were served in 1967 than in 1966.

(j) Recuperative Holidays

In 1967 seven patients were afforded a holiday.

(k) Alterations and Adaptations to property

During the year financial assistance was granted in nine cases to meet the cost of alterations and adaptations to property occupied by physically handicapped people.

(l) Special Washing Service

The issue of disposable paper drawsheets and pants has proved to be very useful for the care of incontinent cases and as a result no-one has required a special washing service.

(m) Health Education

Much health education is carried out at preparation classes for antenatal mothers, at infant welfare and young children's clinics, and at school medical inspections. Much more is imparted in the course of home visits.

MENTAL HEALTH

(a) Staff

The Mental Health section is staffed by an Area Mental Welfare Officer and four mental welfare officers, one of whom is away on full-time training. In addition two trainees are attached to the section. These officers are responsible for the Bebington and Deeside divisions.

Mental Welfare Officers are charged with the care and after-care of the mentally disordered, that is both the mentally ill and the mentally subnormal.

(b) Junior Training Centre

The children attending this Centre require a good deal of individual attention but by the same token relief is afforded to parents, and it is hoped that with care and patience much progress may be made in their special education.

There were 76 children (32 girls, 44 boys) on the register at 31st December, 1967.

The register was made up as follows:—

District							No. of children on register
Bebington	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Ellesmere Port	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Heswall	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Neston	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Hoylake and West Kirby	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Irby	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pensby	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Greasby	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Childer Thornton	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
							—
							76
							—

SECTION 29 — DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The National Health Service Act 1946 (S.29) gave the local authority power to establish a service — “for providing domestic help for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged or a child . . .”.

During 1967 domestic helps were employed for a total of 43,299 hours.

At the end of the year 48 part-time helps were employed.

TABLE XX

					No. of Cases	No. of hours provided
(a)	Persons aged 65 years or over	..	..	..	275	37,601
(b)	Persons aged under 65 years					
	(i) Chronic sick and tuberculous	..	..	..	22	3,735
	(ii) Mentally disordered	..	..	..	2	449
	(iii) Maternity	..	..	..	21	493
	(iv) Others	..	..	..	22	1,021
					342	43,299

There is a scale of charges in operation whereby the amount paid for the service is assessed according to the income of the family concerned after deductions are made for rent, rates and personal allowances. The maximum charge is 5/6d. per hour.

